

Private comments regarding AM use of FM translators  
**Proceeding 07-172**

Currently the FCC is considering a genuine “common sense idea” to allow AM radio stations to use FM translators. I whole-heartedly support this idea and urge early adoption in the most liberal method possible.

AM radio stations are still the backbone of local service in most communities throughout the United States, both large and small. These stations have and continue to serve with full service programming very tailored for the specific city, town and community. Many of these stations have severe signal problems at night or no night signal at all.

Often, the smaller the community, the more likely this type of service is and has been offered **totally free of charge** by local, community minded people, now operating a business handicapped by interference from a variety of sources such as modern lighting, power lines, computers and everyday appliances. In addition, the same stations are challenged by ever increasing competition from new media and by a shrinking advertising base caused by large box stores that find no need to bother supporting the local media.

I urge the Commission to be bold and not only allow AM stations to use FM translators, but to favor this type of operation. This is a wise investment of spectrum, allowing radio stations that are very close to the pulse of the community to continue the service full time, not just daylight hours.

This proposal will also promote diversity as the price of entry for a small AM station is lower, and with an FM translator will allow these owners to better compete. Clearly an AM station also using a FM translator promotes diversity and allows a better economic footing to continue the service.

AM radio stations, already known to provide the most service to their communities, also operating on FM translators just makes common sense. Common sense is not all that common, please take this action as soon as possible and allow *real local* broadcasters this needed tool.

Sincerely

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